

INTERCONNECTEDNESS AND COLLECTIVE ACTION INTENTION

Abstract

In view of the global trend of collective actions and the influence of the doctrine of engaged Buddhism on modern life, this study investigated the association between interconnectedness, a Buddhism-derived concept, and intention to participate in collective action, mediated by compassionate love and the value of universalism. Based on a cross-sectional survey among 354 university students in Hong Kong, results of the structural equation modelling demonstrated that people with a stronger awareness of the interconnected nature of all beings had stronger compassionate love and a higher value of universalism, and are more intended to participate in collective actions. Moreover, people with more compassionate love for others were found to embrace universalism more and have a stronger collective action intention. Implications in nurturing interconnectedness to facilitate the promotion of collective actions were discussed.

Keywords: interconnectedness, compassionate love, universalism, collective action intention